



SHANNA SCHMIDT  
NUMISMATICS<sup>INC</sup>

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# *Carefully Curated*

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03

Dear Friends,

I'm excited to share my latest catalog:  
***Carefully Curated* #3.**

It features a carefully selected group of coins that have been recently purchased for stock. Primarily ancient and some German world coinage.

Most of these coins are not yet listed on my website or on VCoins. I've made them available to you for a short time before posting them to a wider audience.

Enjoy!

# Cilicia. Uncertain Persian satrap

c. 4th century BC

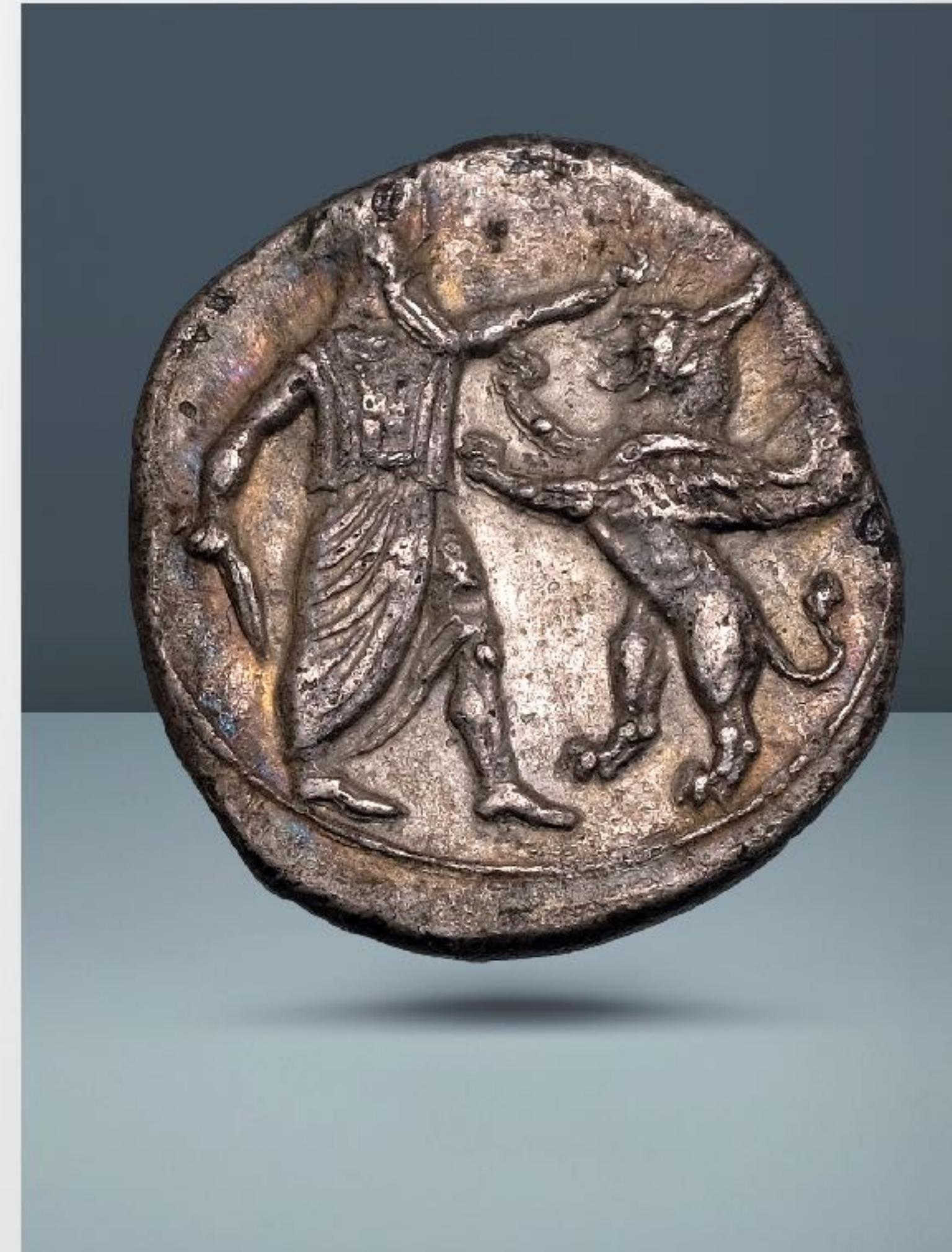
**AR Obol, 0.76g (10mm, 12h).** Persian Great King I.  
stabbing winged lion r. / Forepart of lion.

**Pedigree:** Ex Gert Cleff Collection, Wuppertal. Ex  
Gorny & Mosch, Auction 134, 2004, lot 1492

**References:** SNG Levante 215

**Grade:** Top portion of king's head is off flan, otherwise  
fantastic detail and practically no wear. Minor marks  
overall. Reverse is slightly off center to the bottom  
right, but has practically no wear and excellent detail.  
EF+ (gk1672)

**\$1,500**



The mighty Achaemenid Persian empire began c. 550 BC when Cyrus II, the Great, defeated the Median King, Astyages. Once firmly established, the Persians extended their empire by having Satraps, or governors representing Persia and the Great King, in territories all around. These city states enjoyed relative independence but were overseen by the Satraps put in place. The empire was mostly stable until the time of Alexander the Great (336-323 BC) when he slowly conquered the region.

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# Palestine. Samaria.

375-332 BC

**AR Obol, 0.63g (6mm, 12h).** RY', horse walking r. in beaded square border / 'R', winged sphinx with crowned man's head facing r.

**Pedigree:** Ex. Gert Cleff collection, Wuppertal. Ex CNG MBS 63, 2003, lot 745

**References:** Meshorer - Qedar, Samarian Coinage 27 var.

**Grade:** obverse has very little wear, but is slightly o/c. The Horse's head is only 1/2 on the flan. Reverse is very nice with slight wear. VF+/EF (gk1680)

\$ 2,250



Samaria is the central region of ancient Palestine. At the time this coin was struck it was under control of the Achaemenid Empire (Persians) and was so until its conquest by Alexander the Great in c. 330 BC. There are a wealth of fractional coinage that were issued in the satrapal areas of the Persian Empire during this period. Due to their small size one could assume it was for use by the locals versus compensation for troops which typically were larger denominations.

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# Persia. Achaemenid Empire. Xerxes II - Artaxerxes II

420 - 375 BC

**AV Daric, 8.33g (17mm).** Great King kneeling r. with bow and spear. Cross beneath King / Elongated rectangular incuse punch.

**Pedigree:** Ex Gert Cleff collection, Wuppertal. Ex Classical Numismatic Group Triton VII, New York 2004, lot 367

**References:** Carradice Type III late, cf. plate XIV, 42; BMC 58; Sunrise Coll. 28

**Grade:** Well centered with wear. Details are highlighted by a slight toning. VF+/EF (Gk1684)

\$ 5,500



The Achaemenid Empire had enormous power until its ultimate downfall with the conquest of Alexander the Great. Geographically, Achaemenid rule extended from Macedonia in the west to Pakistan in the east, and from the river Syr Dar'ya and the Caucasus mountains in the north to the Libyan desert and the Persian Gulf in the south. Gold darics showing the Persian king on the obverse and silver siglos coins with the identical imagery was the bi-metallic coinage of the Persians. Cyrus the Great first introduced coinage after his conquest of Lydia and King Croesus. He even temporarily copied the lion/bull imagery that was started under Croesus.

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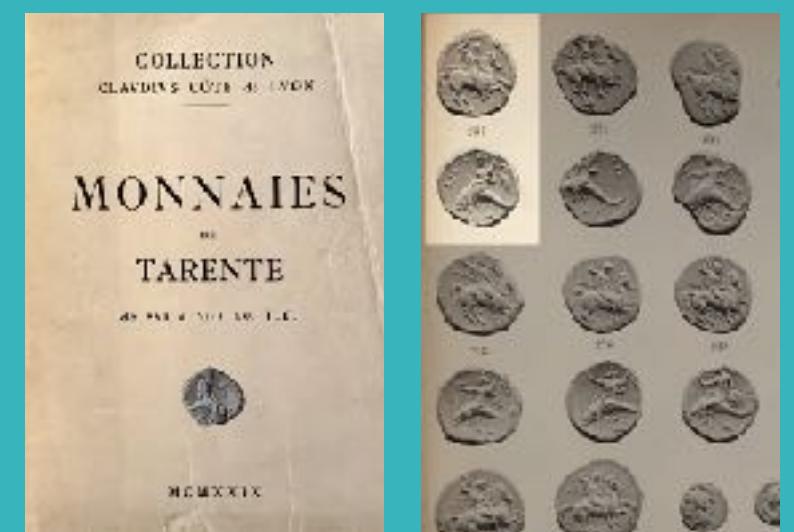
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# Calabria. Tarentum.

c. 290-281 BC

**AR Nomos, 7.84g (18mm, 3h).** Naked rider on galloping horse to r., shield and two spears to l.. Holding hand, third spear in r., below ΣΙΜ. / ΦΙΛΙΣ. Dolphin rider (phalanthos?) l., shouldering a rod with l. hand, behind eagle with closed wings facing l., waves below.

**Pedigree:** From the Claudius Côte collection, Lyon - Rodolfo Ratto auction, Lugano on January 28, 1929, lot 231. From the hoard of Monteparano (1905), IGCH 1950



**References:** Vlasto 574 (same postmark); SNG ANS 981; Fischer-Bossert, group 78b, 1079; HN Italy 933

**Grade:** Well centered and fine strike with very little wear (only on high points). Reverse design has some slight softness on the rider's knee. Very little wear. Attractive toning. EF+ (gk1694)

\$ 4,500



The ancient city of Tarentum (Taras in ancient Greek) has the distinction of being the only city outside of Sparta founded and colonized by the Spartans. The colony was founded in 706 BC by Phalanthos, the leader of the Partheniae who were composed of non-traditional families. They were unmarried Spartan women and free men of non-Spartan origin. There is much speculation about the Parthenian population and their origin; specifically whether they were men opposed to fighting in the Messenian War (The war between the Messenians and the Spartans from 743-724 BC). Another theory is that the Messenian War had lasted so long and the soldier population had so dwindled that they were allowed to return to Sparta to procreate with young Spartan women. The last theory was that the Parthenians were bastard children of Spartan women and their slaves forced to settle on Taras.

The coinage of Tarentum is an interesting departure from the supposed origin of its founding. Warriors and heroes are found on the coinage with scenes that glorify the Greek city-state. Many of the coins of Tarentum feature a boy or man on a dolphin. This famous myth tells of Taras, the son of Poseidon, being saved by a dolphin from a shipwreck. The dolphin safely delivers Taras to land which was made the city of Taras (Tarentum). This depiction is found throughout the vast coinage of Tarentum. The reverse routinely shows variations of men on horses which symbolizes the equestrian events that often took place in Taras.

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# Lucania. Thurioi.

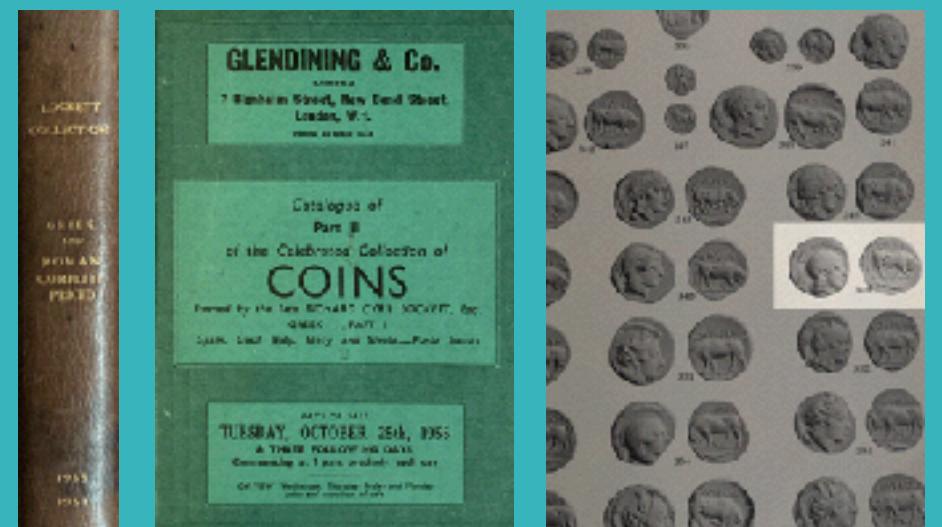
c. 443-400 BC

**AR Didrachm/Nomos, 7.89g (20mm, 6h).**

Head of Athena with a wreathed Attic helmet. /

ΘΟΥΡΙΟΙΩΝ, bull with bowed head r. on line,  
tunny fish below r.

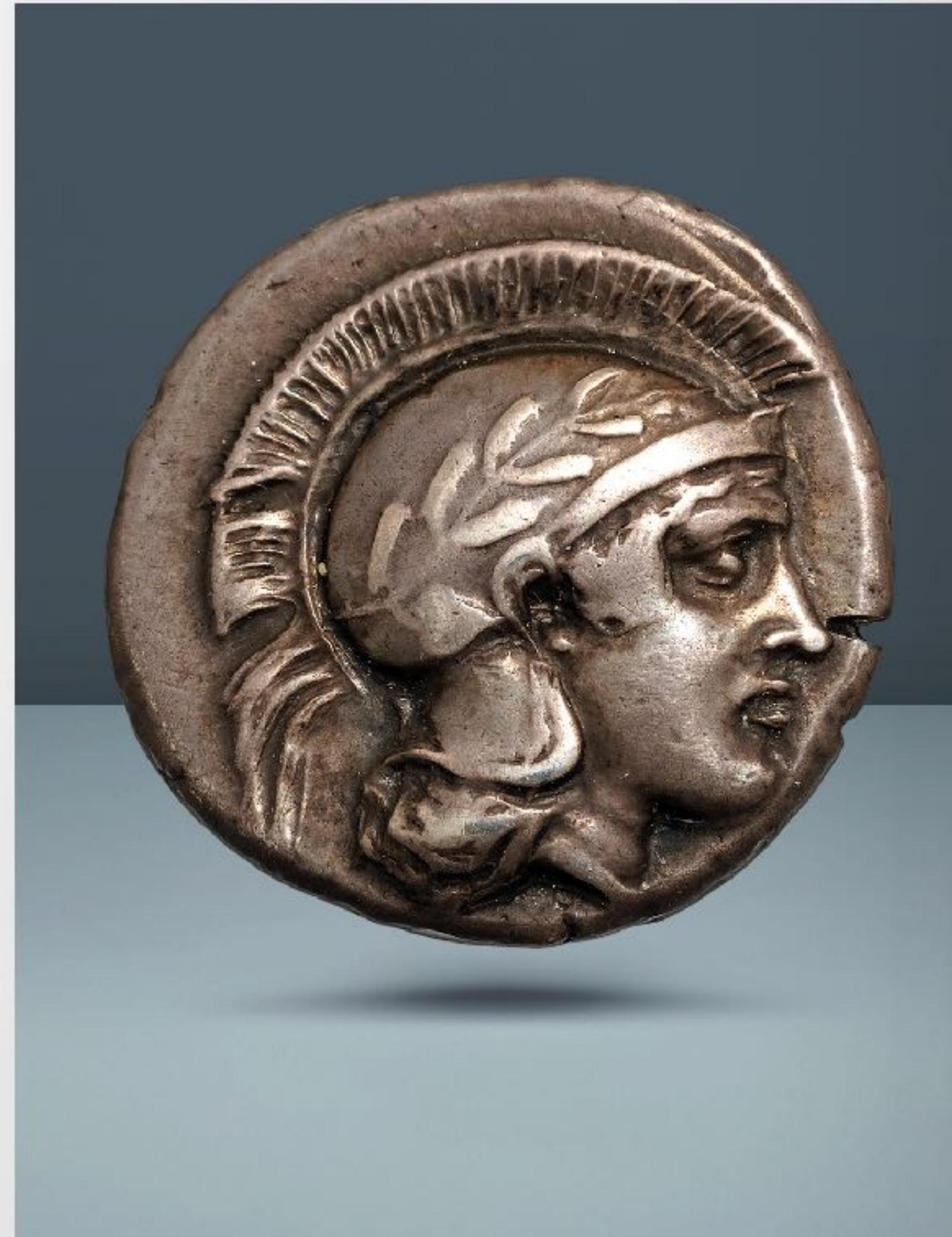
**Pedigree:** Ex R.C. Lockett, Esq. - Auction Glendining & Co, London, October 25, 1955, lot 349



**References:** SNG ANS 900-14; HN Italy 1775

**Grade:** Obverse has some wear on highpoints, but well struck and in fine style. Reverse well struck with some wear, legend partially off flan. Attractive toning. EF (gk1695)

\$ 4,200



Lucania is historically the southern part of Italy. The Lucanians moved into this area pushing out the Oenotrians, "people of the land of vines". Eventually the Oenotrians were absorbed into other Italic tribes. Thurium, where this coin was struck, was formerly Sybaris. This very important city in Magna Graecia was destroyed in c. 510 BC and later became Thurium and was founded by residents of Athens and Sybaris in c. 443 BC.

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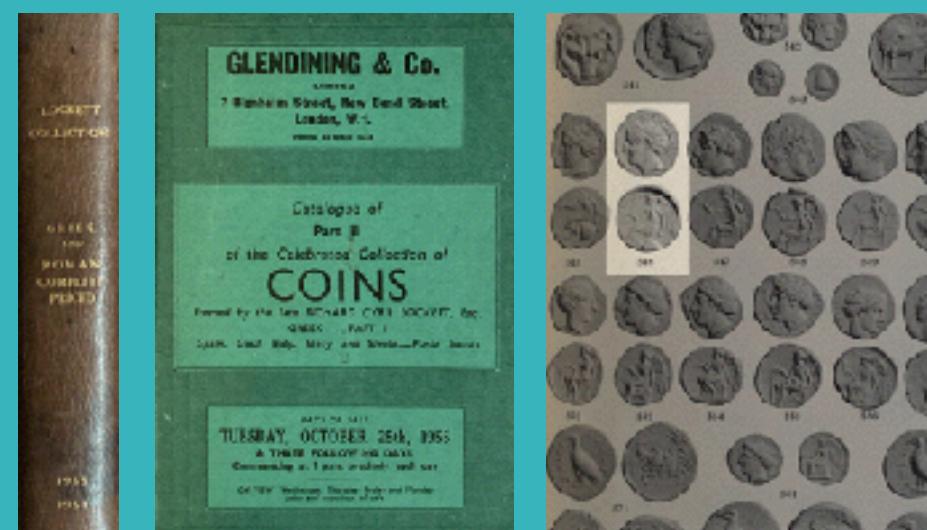
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# Bruttium. Terina.

c. 444/40-425 BC

**AR Didrachm/Nomos, 7.67g (21mm, 7h).** Nymph head l. with ampyx and necklace, surrounded by olive branch. / [TEPI]-NAION. Nike with wreath in extended r. hand and a kerykeion in l., seated on overturned hydria.

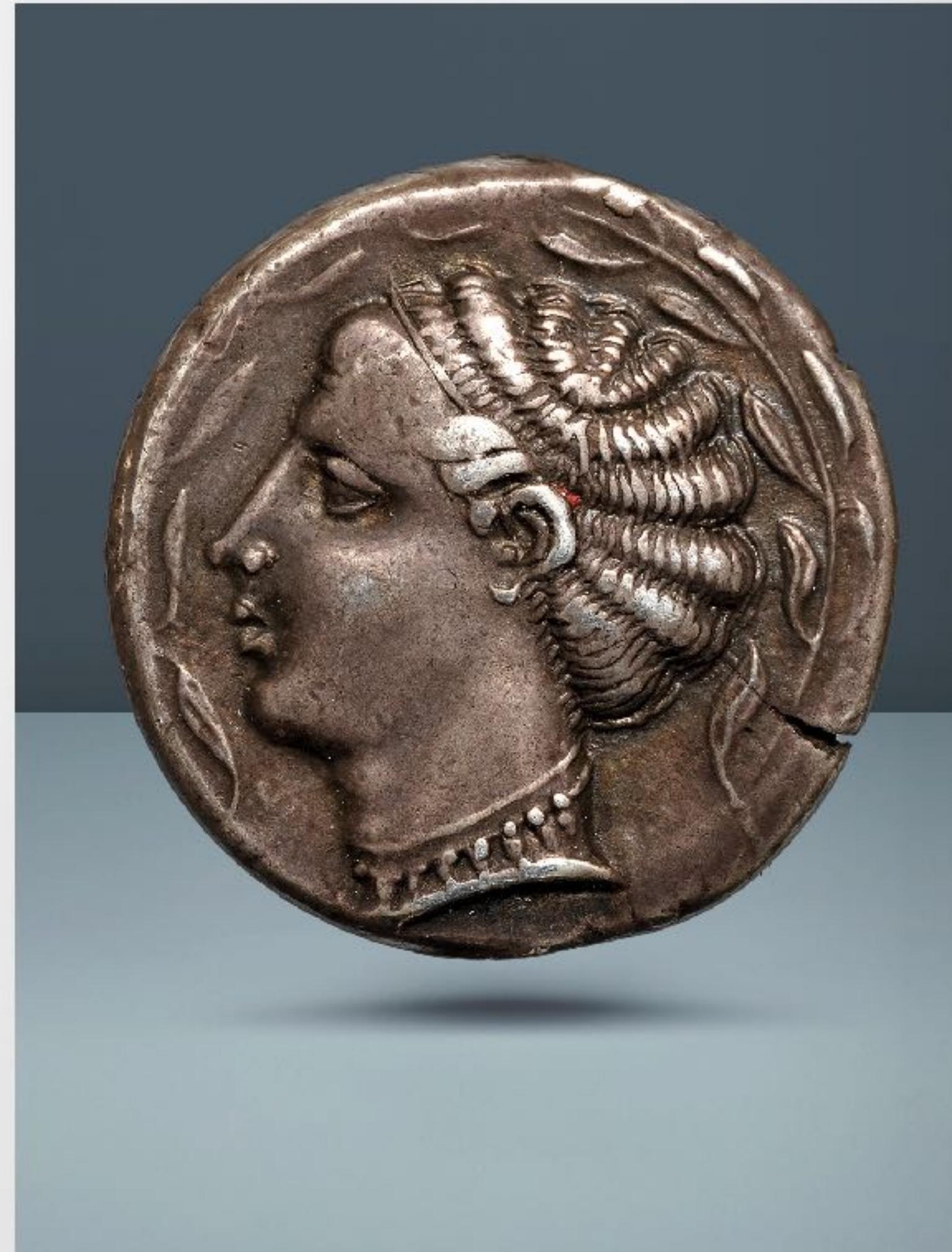
**Pedigree:** Ex R.C. Lockett, Esq. - Glendining & Co, London auction of October 25, 1955, lot 546 and October 25, 1938, lot 43 as well as A. Sambon, Paris auctions of June 27, 1927, lot 615 and P&P Santamaria, Rome of April 6, 1908, Lot 132



**References:** Franke-Hirmer 273; Holloway & Jenkins 12; HN Italy 2575; HGC 1730

**Grade:** Obverse has some wear on high points, but well centered and of fine style. Reverse is slightly off center and worn. VF+/EF (gk1696)

\$ 12,750



Terina is a port city on the Tyrrhenian Sea. This made it important for trade due to its ease of access from the water in conducting trade. The Greek city state of Croton, located also on the water at the "boot" of Italy, founded Terina in c. 480-470 BC. Shortly thereafter it started minting coins. This act allowed Terina to become independent from Croton. This coin was possibly struck in c. 443 which would have been a time of war in Terina. Thurii, always called Thurium, aggressively sought to capture Terina due to its dislike of Croton which was the mother city of Terina. While the plan failed after the army was discovered, some of Terina's beautiful terrain was destroyed. These coins could have easily been made to pay troops fighting on behalf of Terina.

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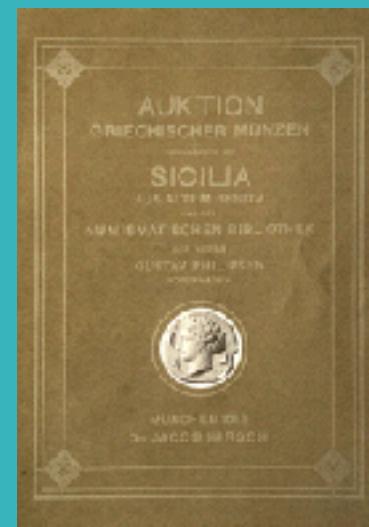
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# Sicily Gela.

c. 490-480/75 BC

**AR Didrachm, 8.57g (21mm, 3h).** Helmeted, nude horseman galloping right, holding spear overhead in r. hand / ΚΕΛΑΣ below the forepart of a man-headed bull, r.

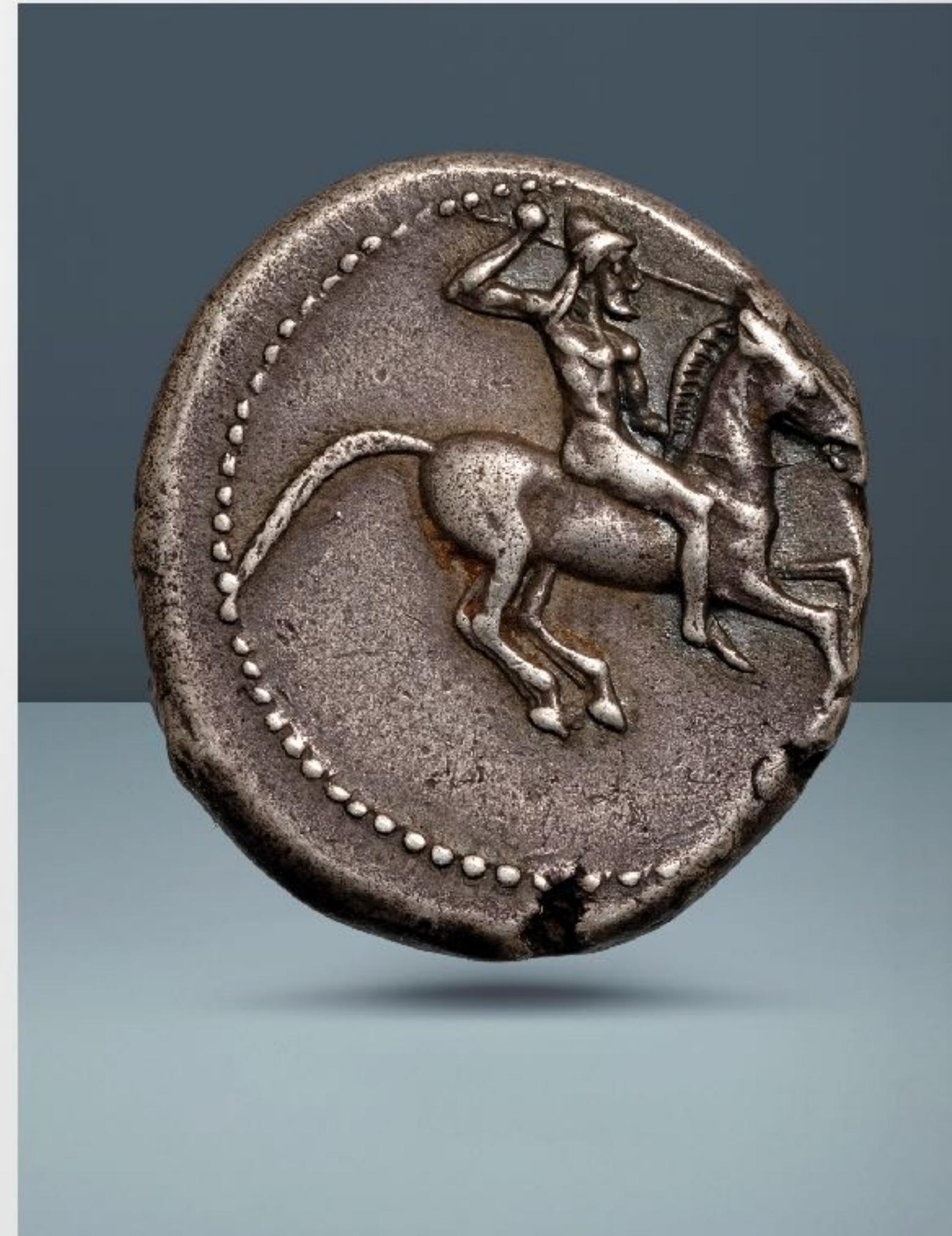
**Pedigree:** Ex Hirsch Auktion 32, 15 November 1912, lot 46 (From the Virzi Collection). Ex CNG Auction 55, 13 September 2000, lot 81



**References:** Jenkins 96.11 (O29/R51 - this coin). SNG ANS 21 (same dies)

**Grade:** Obverse o/c but in excellent condition with sharp strike. Lovely cabinet toning. Two small edge cracks at 5 and 7h on obverse. Lovely strike on reverse with minimal wear. Nicely centered with some very light hairline scratches. aEF (gkl700)

\$ 7,500



The coinage of Gela often exhibits a river god. The geographic location of the city undoubtedly tied it closely to the sea trade and the Greeks being polytheistic worshiped many different gods. The gods were most often linked in some way to the chief sources of trade or commerce of that city. Gela was founded in 688 BC by Greek colonists from Rhodes and Crete. As with many port cities it had times of massive upheaval, as well as periods of prosperity. At the time this coin was struck Gela was strong. Many of its important citizens that had departed for Syracuse for a time returned to Gela and it was believed that this was a period of democracy for the city. Unfortunately the city was destroyed in 405 BC by the invading North African Carthaginians. The survivors took refuge in the city of Syracuse only returning some 20 years later to their homes.

Interesting to note is that Gela was the first Italian beach that the Allies arrived at in 1943 during the invasion of Sicily in WWII.

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# Syria. Seleucid Empire. Demetrios I Soter (the 'Savior')

162-150 BC. Susa Mint.

**AR Tetradrachm, 17.00g (27mm, 9h).** Diademed head r. / Apollo Delphios seated l. on omphalos, testing arrow in his r. hand, l. hand holding tip of bow set on ground to r.; ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ to right, ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ to left, monogram in outer l. field and [Δ] in exergue.

**References:** SC 1711.3 corr. (control marks); Le Rider, Suse, pl. VI, C (same dies); CNG 117, lot 292 (same dies); HGC 9, 790c

**Grade:** Well struck obverse with minor marks and spots of isolated spots of corrosion. Beaded border present except behind head. Lovely toning. High relief. EF. (gk1725)

**\$ 4,750**



As part of the Treaty of Apamea of 188 BC which ended the hostilities between the Roman Republic and Antiochus III, of the Seleucid Empire, Demetrios, the son of Seleucus IV was sent to Rome as a hostage. He was exchanged for the freedom of his uncle Antiochus IV. In 164 BC, Demetrios attempted to stake claim on the Seleucid throne. He was thwarted however by Rome as they preferred the younger, and presumably less volatile Antiochus V. With the help of Polybius (the historian) and other friends, Demetrios was able to escape Rome, assemble an army and take the Seleucid throne from his cousin whom he had murdered. He earned his nickname Soter, the 'savior' by successfully defeating the usurper Timarchus in Babylon in 161 BC.

The reign of Demetrios was fraught with several political blunders which created a sea of enemies both within his kingdom and neighboring rulers. Eventually he was killed in battle against the Seleucid pretender Alexander Balas, supposed son of Antiochus IV.

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# BACTRIA. Eukratides I.

170-145 BC

**AR Tetradrachm, 16.07g (34mm, 12h).** Upper bust of warrior wearing a helmet (decorated with a horn and ear of a bull), holding a spear with his back facing and head left / Dioscuri holding spears and palm fronds; ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ ΜΕΓΑΔΟΥ ΕΥΚΑΤΙΔΟΥ around and monogram below the forelegs of the front horse.

**Pedigree:** Ex The Bru Sale 1, 21.11.2012, lot 80. From a private English collection

**References:** Bopearachchi Series 8B. HGC 132 (Bactria). Mitchiner I, p. 94, Typ 179a (Merv)

**Grade:** Nicely struck with a bit of softness on the obverse. Minor insignificant marks on the obverse. Reverse is similarly struck but has some deeper scratches (one behind the back horseman, one through the front horseman and a few in the field in front). Also an area of mild corrosion between 3-4h. Nice VF+ (gk1701)

\$ 7,500



Much of what we know about ancient Bactria, modern-day Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, we have learned from coinage. Eukratides I was considered the last important King to preside over the region. He presumably earned his position in a coup and much of his reign was fighting in conflicts with neighboring rulers. Near the end of his reign, he successfully Paropamisadae and Gandhara in northwest India. Unfortunately he was assassinated while returning home. Not long after his assassination Bactria eventually grew into the Parthian Empire.

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# Greco-Baktrian Kingdom. Eukratides I Megas.

c. 170-145 BC

**AR Drachm, 4.23g (19mm, 11h).** Diademed and draped bust to l., wearing crested helmet adorned with bull's horn and ear / The Dioskouroi on horses prancing to r., each holding spear and palm; ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ above, ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΟΥ below, monogram in l. Field.

**Pedigree:** Acquired from Pars Coins, San Jose CA

**References:** Bopearachchi 7J; Bopearachchi & Rahman -; Mitchiner 178d; SNG ANS 483; HGC 12, 136

**Grade:** Well centered with all details visible. Minimal wear on high points. Some doubling on reverse legend. Bright metal with some speckles of encrustation still remaining. Near EF. (gk1728)

\$1,750



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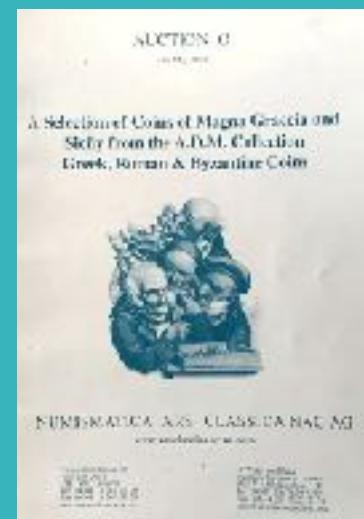
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# Lucania. Metapontum.

c. 340-330 BC

**AR Stater, 7.76g (20mm, 5h).** Leukippus right wearing Corinthian helmet. Ethnic behind head / Kernel of grain with thunderbolt symbol to right and META to left.

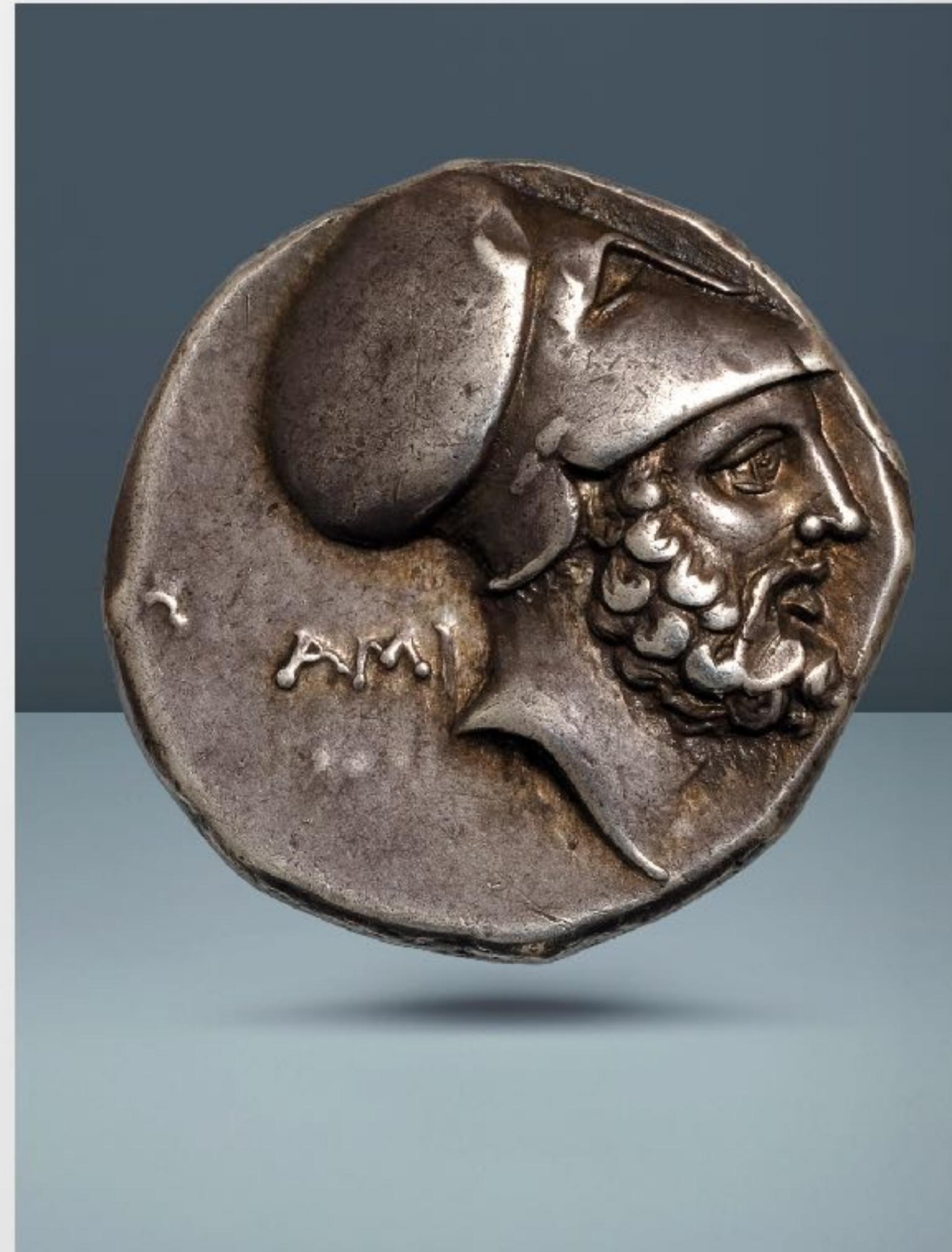
**Pedigree:** Ex NAC O, 13, May 2004, lot 1122 (Athos Moretti Coll.). Stack's Bowers & Ponterio 8 August 2012, lot 20380



**References:** Johnston, Metapont III, B 4.1 (this coin).  
Rutter, HN 1577

**Grade:** Somewhat tight flan. Obverse of Leukippus is sharply struck with some minor wear. A few minor flan defects on the face. Reverse is nicely struck also with some areas of slight wear on the high points.  
Thunderbolt symbol on right is partially off flan, as well as a small part of the legend. EF (gk1704)

\$ 4,800



Metapontum was an ancient colony on the Gulf of Taranto founded by Greeks from Achaea but re-colonized in the seventh century by Sybarites under the leadership of Leukippus. It was a wealthy city, known for its agricultural prosperity, but it was abandoned in the second Punic War in 207 B.C.

The obverse of this stater depicts the city's founder, Leukippus. Leukippus was a source of local pride; legend had it that he had won Metapontum through trickery from its neighbor and rival, Taras (Strabo, Geography 6, 265). These staters, issued in great numbers in the last third of the fourth century, are often connected with the campaigns of Alexander the Molossian, who was invited by Taras to help defend the local Greek cities against the Lucanians and other non-Greek peoples in the interior

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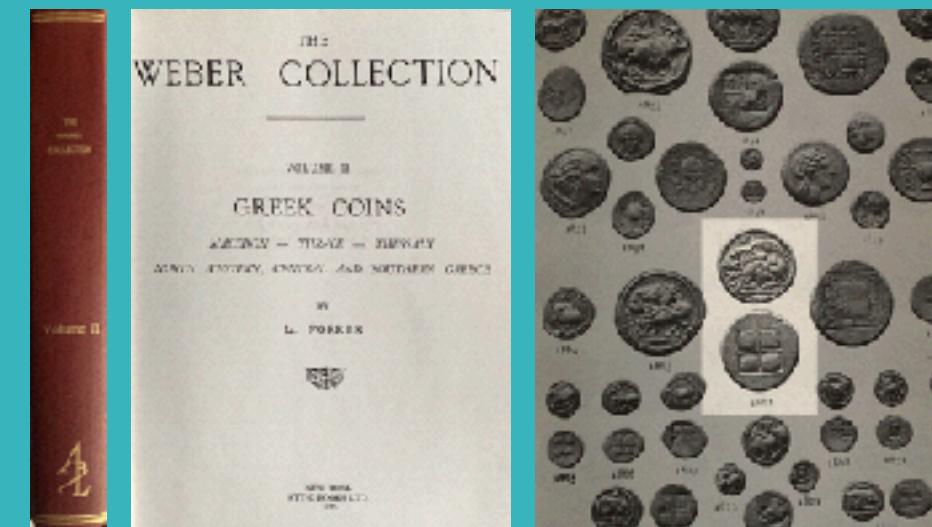
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# Macedonia. Akanthos.

c. 470-430 BC

**AR Tetradrachm, 17.15g (26mm).** Lion over bull, both fighting. Q. in the field above and flower below beaded border / Quadratum incusum with 4 sections.

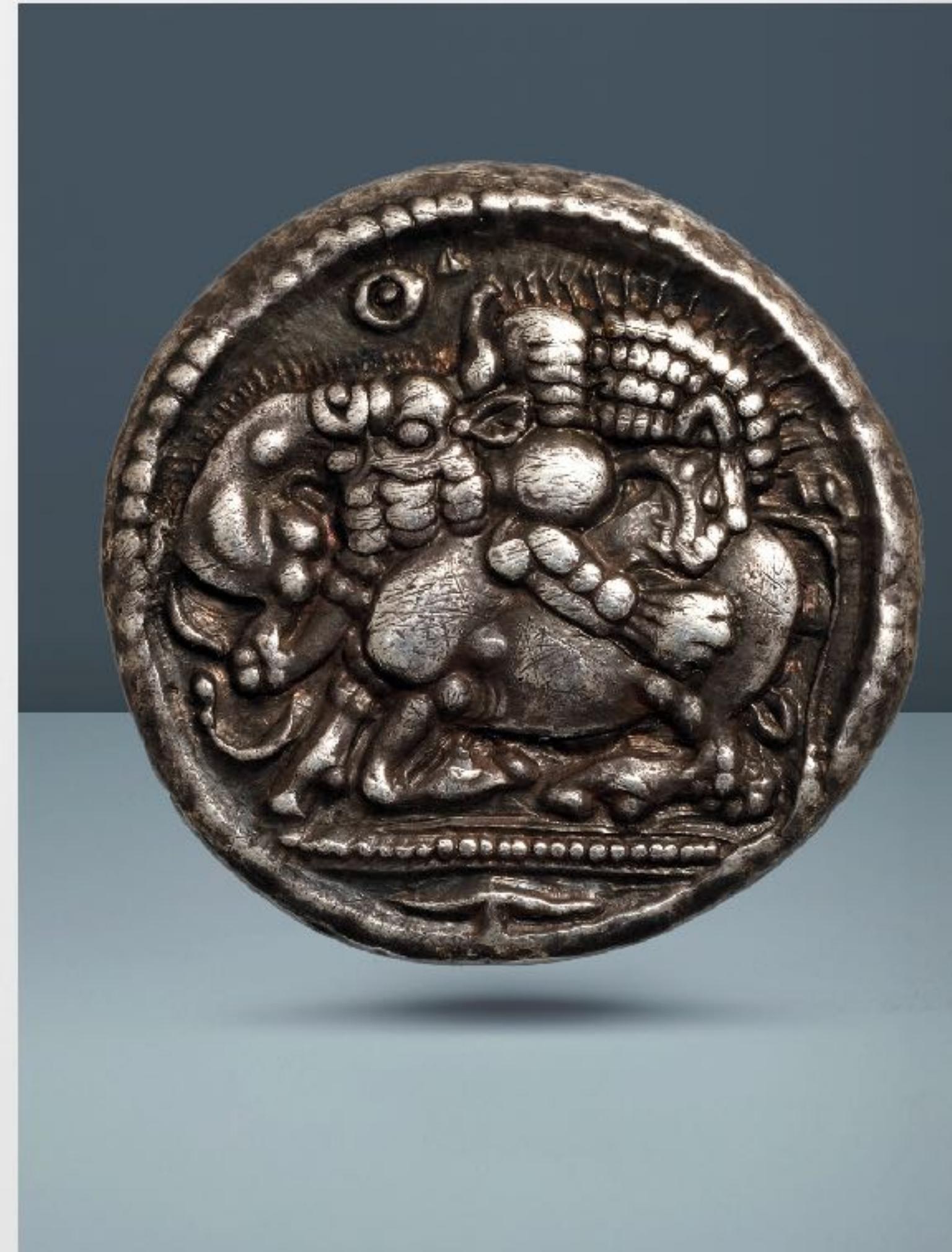
**Pedigree:** Ex collection Hermann Weber, 1862 (Note: Ex collection Hoffmann, Wigan and Ferdinand Bompais).



**References:** Desneux 48-68 var.; SNG ANS 10; HGC 383; Weber Coll. 1862 (this coin)

**Grade:** Outstanding high relief with lovely toning and sharp details. Reverse has numerous old scratches. EF (gk1707)

**\$10,500**



Akanthos, located in eastern Greece, was marked by Thucydides as a city of collaborators during the Greco-Persian wars. Nevertheless, with an economy fueled mainly by the silver pulled from the nearby mines of Halkidiki, it quickly became an important regional center which produced a widely circulating currency starting in 530 BC. After nearly 160 years of striking coins, the city's imagery was becoming quite refined.

Usually depicting a lion attacking a bull, these coins are seemingly an artistic legacy of the early Lydian coinage from just across the Aegean Sea. Today, these stunning coins are recognized as true artistic gems of the archaic Greek world.

As part of the Hermann Weber collection this particular piece is pedigreed back to 1862. After moving to London from Germany in 1851, Weber established himself as a medical authority in the treatment of consumption. Through his work as a board member of the Royal Numismatic Society and numismatic author, Weber began assembling what is now considered one of the most important collections of ancient Greek coins of modern history. After a number of years, this coin also passed through the hands of Henri Hoffmann, Edward Wigan, and Ferdinand Bompais. The August 19th century pedigree lends quite a sense of history and gravitas to the coin.

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# Corinthia. Corinth.

c. 405-345 BC

**AR Stater, 8.52g (23mm, 10h).** Pegasos flying to r. with Q below / Head of Athena facing r. with a Corinthian helmet and an Aphlaston behind.

**Pedigree:** Ex Auction Tradart 2, 1992, lot 88

**Grade:** Obverse displays some cracks in the dies that created lines in front of Pegasus, and the tips of the left wing and tail of Pegasos are off flan. Otherwise, nicely struck with strong details visible on the face. Some minor wear on the wing. Very nice deep cabinet toning. Reverse is of fine style and well struck. All details are visible with only minimal wear on high points. Flan flaw on cheek of Athena. EF (gk709)

**References:** Ravel 644var; HGC 1834; Calciati, Pegasi I, 246

**\$ 4,750**



Corinth was an important city in ancient times due to its advantageous position of being close to the isthmus connecting the Saronic and Corinthian Gulfs. This isthmus connects the Peloponnese to mainland Greece which helped boost the importance of Corinth. In addition, Corinth had a large citadel, the Acro Corinthus, which further strengthened their strategic position.

Corinth was often involved in some military battles due to its strategic relevance. Eventually the city was taken by Philip II of Macedon and remained under Macedonian control until the Romans destroyed the city in 146 BC.

The coinage of Corinth and the surrounding cities are beautifully designed with a vibrant pegasus on the obverse and a head of Athena on the reverse. The earliest of the Corinthian "colts" were struck in the early part of the 6th century BC. The pegasus was on the obverse and an incuse of a mill sail pattern on the reverse were the initial motifs. Later, this transitioned into an archaic Athena and Pegasus. Over time the Athena became more classical in stature. The colonies around Corinth all used similar motifs and varied the symbol below the pegasus to denote which city-state it came from.

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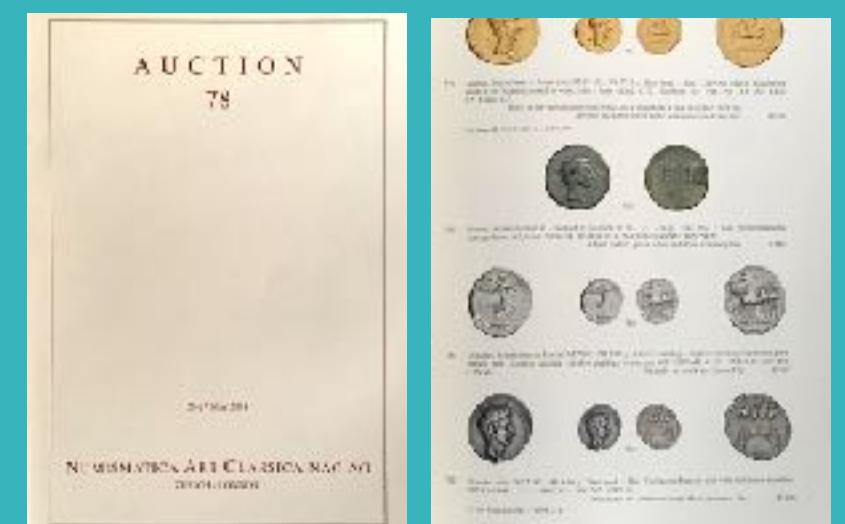
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# Roman Imperatorial. Octavian. Uncertain mint in Italy

Autumn 30 - Summer 29 BC

**AR Denarius, 4.00g (18mm, 12h).** Bare head of Octavian to r. / Single span triumphal arch surmounted by Octavian in facing quadriga; IMP•CAESAR on architrave.

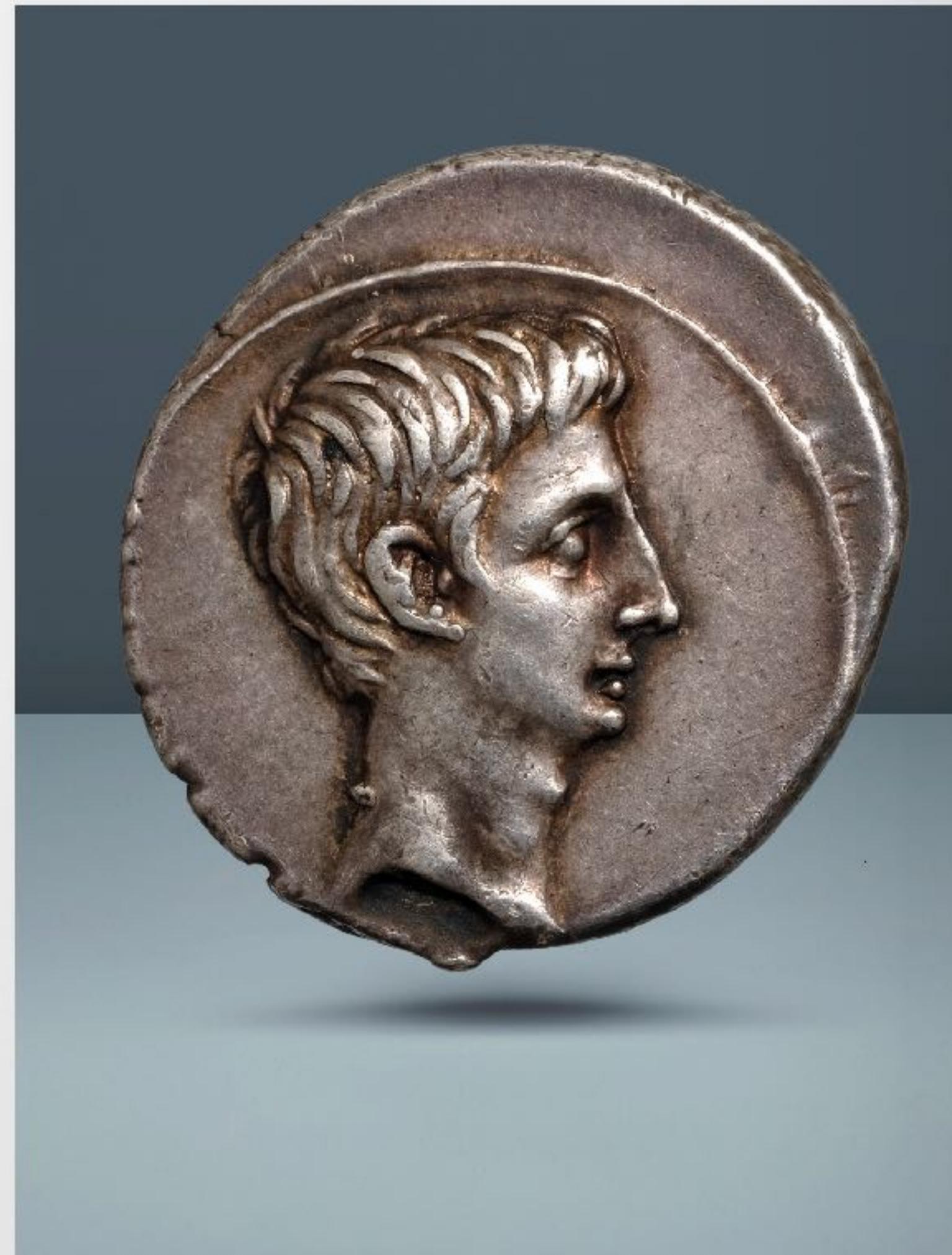
**Pedigree:** ex. Andrew McCabe Collection, collector's tickets included; ex Alan J. Harlan Collection, Classical Numismatic Group, Triton XXII, 8 January 2019, lot 974 (hammer: USD 2,250); ex Numismatica Ars Classica AG, Auction 78, 26 May 2014, lot 782; ex Leu Numismatik AG, FPL Autumn 1998, no. 221; ex Bank Aufhäuser, Auction 12, 1 October 1996, lot 419; ex Bank Leu AG, Auction 25, 23 April 1980, lot 228.



**References:** RIC I 267 (Augustus); CRI 422; BMCRE 624 (Augustus) = BMCRR Rome 4348; RSC 123 (Augustus)

**Grade:** Obverse slightly o/c, but full design on flan. Well struck with slight wear. Reverse well centered, almost no wear, and very pleasant iridescent cabinet toning. EF. (rr1240)

\$ 4,750



This coin was struck after a very tumultuous time just a few months after the Battle of Alexandria had taken place. This was the last battle fought by the Roman Republic and included Octavian, adopted son of Julius Caesar, set against Mark Antony, a former member of his triumvirate (the third was Lepidus). Antony and his lover Cleopatra VII eventually committed after Antony's defeat. While there were several wars throughout time, this war was distinctive as it was based on jealousy and perceived inherited power. While Octavian was the adopted son of slain Julius Caesar, Cleopatra had given birth to Caesar's actual heir, Caeserion, born from a union between the two. Once aligned for a common cause to avenge the death of Caesar, Octavian and Antony hit loggerheads once Antony and Cleopatra formed a romantic and political alliance. Octavian surely must have felt threatened by the youth Caeserion who Antony saw as his son and was preparing him to rule. In retaliation, Octavian began a campaign that accused Antony of attempting to threaten the life of the Republic. Eventually Octavian prevailed causing Antony to commit suicide, as well as having Caeserion and Antony's eldest son murdered to avoid any lineage issues.

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Roman Republic.  
Anonymous.  
Reduced Libral. Rome.

c. 225-217 BC

**Aes Grave, 253.77g (63mm, 12h). Head of Janus; below, horizontal mark of value I; all on a raised disk / Prow right; above, mark of value I; all on a raised disk**

**References:** BMC 10. Crawford 35/1. Syd. 72

**Grade:** Attractive encrusted patina. Small hole to left of flan in front of nose. Beautiful and EF (rr1244)

**\$ 7,500**



Due to the small amounts of silver available, the first coins used by the early Republic c. 280 BC were made of bronze. This likely occurred as Roman conquered central Italy where bronze was plentiful. The coins of the period were cast, not struck. Aes Grave were nothing like the Greek coins that had been struck for the previous 350 years. The coinage was based on the libral standard where the As referred to a coin and the weight. One As equaled one Roman pound (or twelve uncia (ounces). The weight standard changed around 265 BC when the As equaled 10 uncia. This period was known as the light libral standard.

Aes Grave coinage are normally quite crude looking based on their method of production. The imagery on the coins is typically simplistic in nature. Aside from the Romans, early Etruscan coinage is similarly cast. Other cast coinage types can be found in ancient Olbia however they are large and thinner in fabric.

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# Roman Republic. C. Egnatius Maximus.

Rome, c. 75 BC

**AR Denarius, 3.76g (18mm, 7h).** MAXSVMVS, Bust of Cupid with bow and arrow over the left shoulder facing r. / C EGNATIVS CN F / CN N, Temple with columns within which two statues stand, one of Jupiter and the other of Libertas side by side. Above, thunderbolt and pileus.

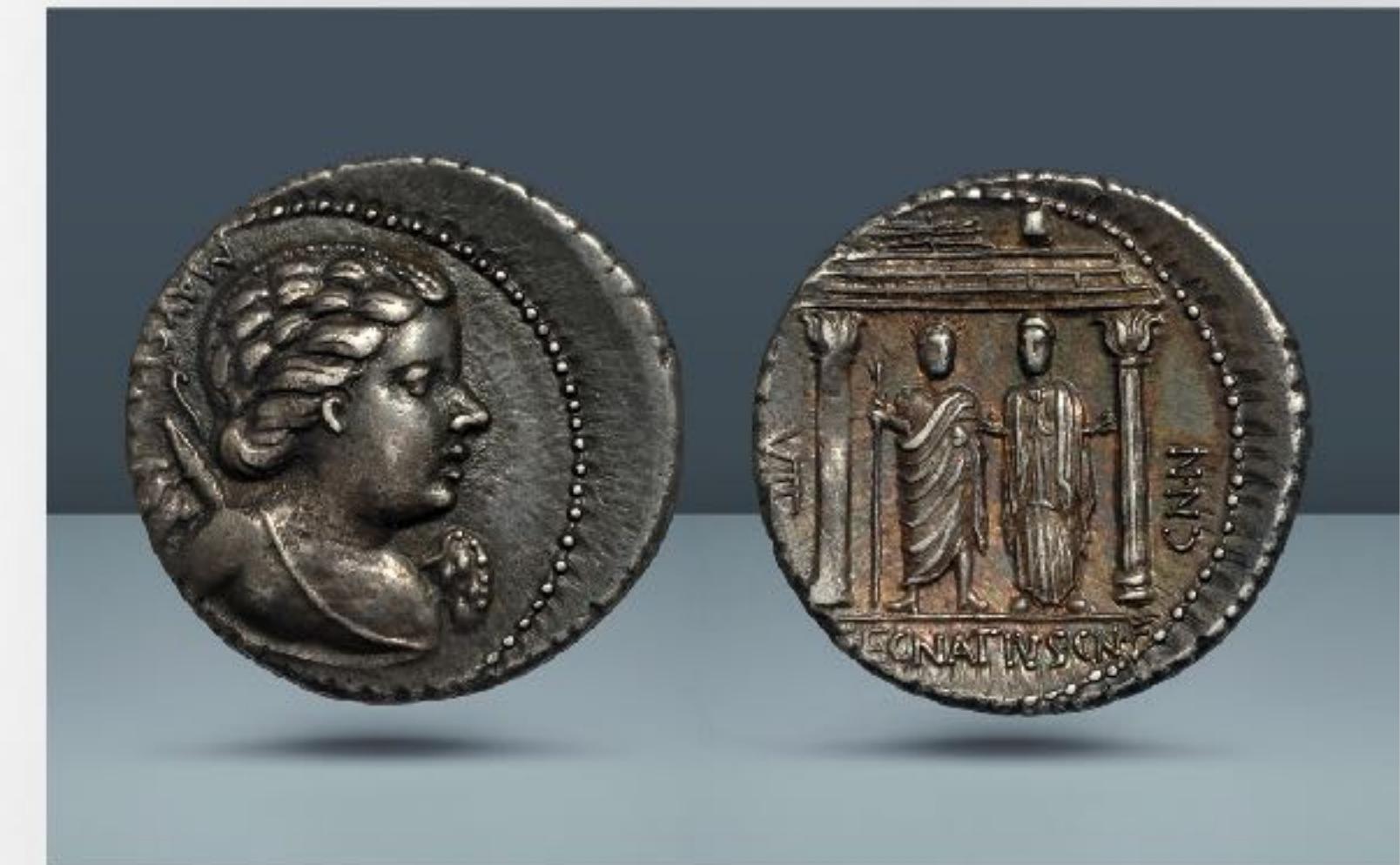
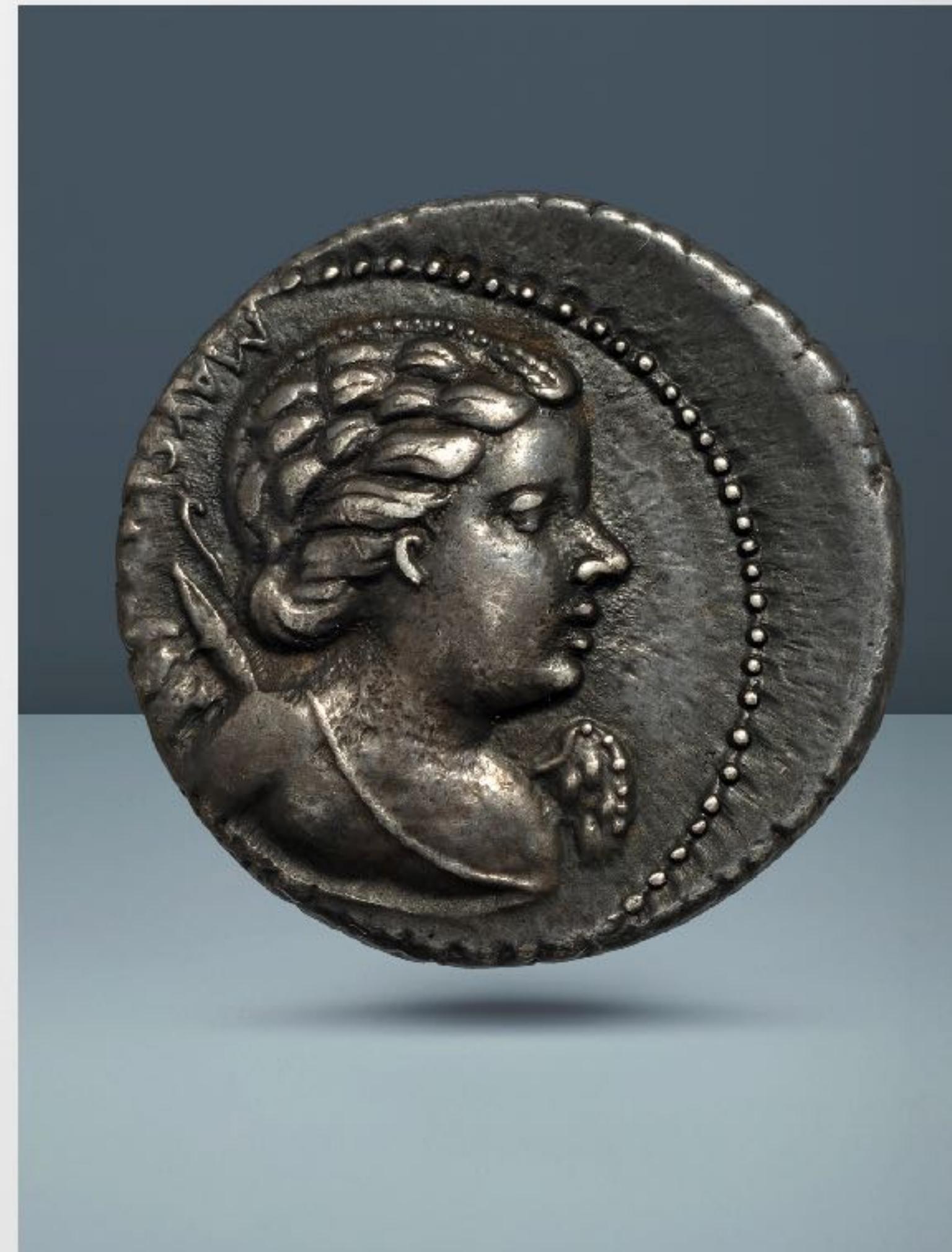
**Pedigree:** Ex Leu 17 (1977), lot 474, ex NAC 2 (1990), lot 352



**References:** Crawford 391/2. Sydenham 788.  
Egnatia 3. RBW 1428

**Grade:** Slightly o/c on the obverse. Beautiful iridescent toning and lovely strike. Reverse has normal wear on faces of figures. EF (rr1245)

\$ 3,250



It is relatively unusual that buildings on ancient coins can be directly linked to real historical structures. This denarius, struck by C. Egnatius Maximus in Rome during 75 BC, is one. A plebeian family, the Egnatii did however produce several notable family members and lent their name to the Via Egnatia. C. Egnatius Maximus is known today, both from the 3 types of coins he struck (RRC 391/1-3) as well as from a passing mention in Cicero's Letters to Atticus. The reverse of this type which depicts a two columned temple with two men in togas is, according to Crawford, the temple of Jupiter Libertas.

Originally constructed in 238 BC by Tiberius Sempronius Gracchus, great-grandfather to the more famous Gracchi brothers, this is a relatively early and important temple. It is possible that the temple was built using funds collected through public fines, as stated in Livy. Additionally, this is one of, if not the first time that a deity was depicted within their own temple on Roman coinage. Above the figure of Jupiter is a small lightning bolt, and a pileus above Libertas.

While the Jupiter Libertas is not standing today, the image is almost definitely not a realistic depiction. We do however know that it was located next to the Tiber River to the left of the Circus Maximus, where the basilica of Santa Sabina sits today.

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Zenobia,  
mother of Vabalathus.  
Lived c. 240 AD  
to after c. 274 AD.

Antioch, March-May 272 AD

**BI Antoninianus, 2.38g (20mm, 12h). [S] ZENOBIA**  
AVG, draped bust to r., wearing stephane, set on  
crescent / IVNO REG[INA], Juno standing facing, head  
to l., holding patera and sceptre, peacock standing to l.  
at her feet; star in l. Field.

**References:** RIC V 2 corr. (star not noted); Bland,  
Coinage 29, e-k, dies 45/Jun ii; Carson, Zenobia 3;  
MIR 47, 360b/0; BN 1267a

**Grade:** In unusually good condition for type. Rough  
surfaces but clear imagery, particularly on the side with  
Zenobia. aEf for issue (re1258)

\$ 6,500



Several years after Emperor Gallienus recognized Odenathus's claim to the rulership of Syria as a Roman client king, he fell victim to an unknown assassin. That year (267 AD) Zenobia came to rule as regent for her 10 year old son Vabalathus. Even as one of the most accomplished and remarkable women of antiquity, it took two to three years after her husband's murder for Zenobia to be officially attested to as Queen of Palmyra. Regardless, Zenobia quickly sprang into action and seized Egypt and major parts of Asia Minor in 269 in defiance of Rome.

Despite her early battlefield successes, Zenobia's forces were quickly defeated by Aurelian and the queen captured along with her son. She either was taken to Rome to serve as the centerpiece of a triumph or starved to death on the trip west. Even though historians disagree as to her fate, since she ruled as regent, there are very few known coinage types specifically of Zenobia. Many of these coins proclaim her self-proclaimed title of Augusta and were most likely struck in recently seized roman mints located either at Emesa or Antioch.

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# Roman Empire. Lucius Verus, 161-169 AD. Rome

c. 162-163 AD

**AV Aureus, 7.38g (19mm, 5h).** IMP CAES L VERVS AVG, bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust to r. / SALVTI AVGVSTOR TR P III, Salus standing facing, head to l., feeding serpent coiled round altar from patera and holding sceptre; COS II in exergue.

**Pedigree:** From a private European collection

**References:** RIC III 496 (Aurelius); BMCRE 232 note; Calicó 2163

**Grade:** Well centered with only slight overall wear on both faces. Some luster. aEF (re1268)

\$ 6,750



The partnership of Lucius Verus and Antoninus Pius was a constitutional innovation that began with Augustus but was truly in effect with the Flavian, Hadrian and Pius. This practice was when the emperor chose a colleague to share in the duties. This colleague held tribunician and consular powers and was called Caesar. For Lucius Verus and Antoninus Pius the practice was changed so that both rulers held equal power and control in decision making for the entire Roman Empire. The unfortunate part was that Verus and Pius were complete opposites. Pius was known for his wisdom and while a good ruler he was certainly more a man of philosophy rather than war. Verus was charming and superficial and essentially was not fit to rule. His involvement and subsequent success in the Armenian conflict was won by his capable generals. The war fought with Parthia ended in the success earned by his generals Avidius Cassius, Statius Priscus and Martius Verus. His coinage from that point forward harkens back to this victorious time.

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# Roman Empire. Divus Nigrinian, son of Carinus.

*Rome, died c. 284-285 AD*

**BI Antoninianus, 3.36g (22mm, 11h). DIVO**  
NIGRINIANO, radiate head to r. / CONSECRATIO, eagle  
with spread wings standing facing, head f.;  
KA(crescent)A in exergue

**References:** RIC V.2 472 (Numerianus); C. 2

**Grade:** Softly struck but clear images. Better condition  
than most that appear on the market for this rare issue.  
EF for issue (re1271)

**\$ 2,750**



Nigrinian is known to have been the grandson of Carus and the son of Carinus. He was likely born in 284 and died in infancy. His coinage shows a young man so it is not reasonable to assume that the coinage was more than just an honorary piece for his family. There also was speculation that Nigrinian was actually the son of Lucius Domitius Alexander, a usurper, but this was dispelled upon discovery of an inscription in the Roman Forum which tied him to Carus as his grandson. The question still remains whether he was the natural born son of Carinus or was possibly adopted before his death. Carus and Carinus were part of the 3rd century crisis overtaking the Roman Empire. There were approximately 20 rulers from the time of the assassination of Severus Alexander in 235 AD until 285 AD with the rule of Aurelian.

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# Byzantine Empire. Irene.

797-802 AD. Constantinople.

**AV Solidus, 4.42g (20mm, 6h).** ΕΙΡΗΝΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΗ, crowned bust of Irene facing, wearing loros, holding globus cruciger and cruciform sceptre / • ΕΙΡΗΝΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΗ Θ, crowned bust of Irene facing, wearing loros, holding globus cruciger and cruciform sceptre.

**References:** Füeg 1.A.2; DOC 1b; Sear 1599

**Grade:** Some light porosity on obverse face of Irene, otherwise very nicely struck with clear legends and details on both obverse and reverse. EF. (bz1042)

**\$ 8,750**



Constantine VI had the misfortune or fortune (on how one views it) to have an extremely ambitious mother. In 780, Leo IV, Constantine VI's father died, Irene assumed the regency of her son. As a ruler she was effective in reversing the stringent policies on iconoclasm. As the years went on her relationship with her son weakened due to her insistence on involving herself in the affairs of the state. Soldiers that were still allegiant to Constantine V, the grandfather of Constantine VI, coaxed the young man into exiling his mother.

Over time this proved to be his undoing as his real character became more evident to those around him. He was found to be a weak and rather ruthless ruler. In 797 Irene took the opportunity to remove Constantine VI from office and had him blinded. This left sole rule to Irene. Irene had her gender working against her when Pope Leo III used this to proclaim Charlemagne emperor of the Holy Roman Empire thereby cutting ties with the Eastern Roman Empire. He claimed that since a woman was on the throne that the Roman Empire virtually had no ruler. In 802 a coup forced Irene into exile where she died shortly afterwards.

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# Constantine VI, with Irene.

793-797 AD

**Constantinople. AV Solidus, 4.43g (20mm, 6h).**

HRH<sup>h</sup> AVΓ<sup>4</sup>STH, crowned facing bust of Irene, wearing loros, holding globus cruciger and cruciform sceptre / COH<sup>ST</sup>AH<sup>T</sup>INOS bAS', crowned and draped facing bust of Constantine, wearing chlamys, holding globus cruciger and akakia.

**References:** Füeg -; cf. 5.C. DOC -; cf. 3c. Sear 1594

**Grade:** lightly porous surfaces. Softly struck on both faces, otherwise in excellent condition. Good VF+ (bz1047)

\$ 3,500



Struck during the duumvirate of Constantine VI and his mother Irene, this coin stands testament to a dramatic and turbulent period of Byzantine court politics. When Constantine came to the throne in 780 AD after the death of his father Leo IV, he was only ten years old. As such, his mother Irene acted as regent for a number of years. During this decade of personal rule Irene consistently put herself before her young son in a brazen grab for power. This manifested itself numismatically in an interesting way. Coins from the regency depict both Irene and Constantine on the obverse as co-rulers and not as ruler and regent. Furthermore, Irene is shown holding the regal globus cruciger. Eventually she was arrested when the army proclaimed Constantine as sole emperor. Two years later in 792, Constantine pardoned his mother and welcomed her back to rule.

This time, the coins depicted the two as true co-rulers and both Irene and Constantine hold the globus cruciger.

After five years and a series of contentious backroom maneuvers Irene took advantage of the public outrage expressed at Constantine's divorce of his wife Maria of Amnia, and marriage of his mistress, Theodote. Irene's supporters seized, blinded, and imprisoned her son. With this, Irene was free to proclaim herself as the sole ruler of the Byzantine empire.

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# Germany. Rothenburg o.d. Tauber Stadtwappen.

*Dies by Josef Wild. Nürnberg, 1924.*

**AV 1 Goldmark, 0.37g (9mm, 12h).** Castle. Name of city above and initials of die engraver (J.W.) below left. NBG (Nürnberg) below right. '1000' below / Denomination written '1 GOLD M'.

**References:** Fischer 144. Fenzlein 256

**Grade:** Brilliant surfaces. EF. (Wc1172)

\$1,500



Josef Wild was an important figure in the history of money for Germany. By the end of the first world war Germany was in a period of hyperinflation. Common items that were once a few D-marks were suddenly running into the hundreds making life almost unbearable for the common person. In response to this, the German government created the Rentenmark, which taxed mortgages to citizens and dispensed certificates to be used as currency.

Then came Josef Wild, a goldsmith from Nürnberg, who wanted the stability of the German gold standard returned instead of another fiat currency that could easily fail the German people. He created several dies and produced gold coins at his own expense and attempted to circulate these within the country. He created coins of fine gold (1000) which were shown on the issues. Wild said that any coins with this mark was inflation-proof and a way to ensure secure business transactions. He created gold in the denominations of 100, 50, 25, 20 and 10 marks (or 1 gold ducat equivalent in weight to 10 marks), 5, 3, 2, 1 marks and 50 gold pfennigs. Wild did this from 1923 until 1928 at which point he must have started to use an old official die from the German Empire. This was considered an offense by the German government and they prosecuted Wild and sent him to prison. Despite the fact that his currency was considered more stable than what they were disseminating, Wild was sent to prison where he died in 1932.

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# Germany, Hamburg. Corruption of the Imperial Commission.

c. 1708

**AV Dukat Satirical Medal, 3.47g (22mm, 6h).** \*DENN  
GESCHENKE MACHEN DUE SEHENDEN BIND, facing  
bust of imperial official (Holy Roman Empire) with  
open hand before his face, peering between his fingers;  
around wrist, ribbon reading SO KOMME ICH DIR SO /  
\* DU SOLST NICHT GESCHENCK NEHMEN  
IM.2.B.MOS : 23 : 8, hand holding coin; around wrist,  
ribbon reading KOMSTU MIR ALSO

**Pedigree:** From the Dr. Jay M. Galst Collection. Ex  
Giessener Münzhandlung 32 (12 November 1985), lot  
685

**References:** Ophthalmologia XIV.88 (this medal  
illustrated); Gaedechens II 15

**Grade:** A few minor marks, edge bump. Good VF. Rare  
(wc1175)

**\$ 2,750**



Struck by the notoriously antisemitic medalist Christian Wermuth in 1708, this gold satirical medal dated to 1708 provides a fascinating contemporary social commentary on Hamburg's Jewish population. Like many other German cities of that age, Hamburg was home to a large number of Jews. However, only the established community of Sephardic Jews enjoyed legal status, and the recent influx of Ashkenazi Jews remained unrecognized by the local government.

The Citizens' Council and city Senate fought over whether or not to extend rights to the community. With the Citizens' Council, mainly controlled by orthodox Protestants, pushing for further restrictions, the local Jewish community escalated this issue all the way up to the Holy Roman Emperor Joseph I who appointed an imperial commission to review the issue. Headed by cardinal Damian von Schönborn, the commission was simultaneously socially progressive and religiously restrictive. For example, while the local Jewish community would not be required to pay the so called customary "Leibzoll" or "body tax" required of most European Jews, Hamburg's Jewry was required to practice their faith out of sight. In effect, the exercitum religionis publicum or public exercise of [the Jewish] religion was forbidden.

This medal, struck in response to the Commission's decision, was intended to show that the Jewish population bribed the commission for a favorable ruling. As they were struck in gold, with a few later silver restrikes, these medals were clearly meant specifically for the wealthy local elite.

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# Germany. Medal from Karl Goetz.

1915.

**Bronze Medal, 151.85g (81.7mm, 12h).** On the bundle of malice. Mythical animal of a rooster (France), two lions (Belgium and England), a bear (Russia), a snake (Serbia) and a chimera (Japan) as an image of the "Union of Malice", on whose teats a small child (Italy) suckles / Four lines of writing above God the Father in the clouds with a sickle, below hellfire. The lines state in German "Kill him! The Last Judgment does not ask you for the reasons".

**References:** Kienast 160

**Grade:** Some green encrustation but otherwise in excellent condition.(wc1186)

**\$ 750**



The obverse shows a winged hydra with sevens heads (a French coq, Belgium and England lions, Russian bear, monkey, Serbian snake, Japan Chimera) nursing Italy in a Bersaglieri hat. On the border it is written "League of malice). MCMXV

God emerges from clouds with sickle and globe in his hands, K and G on left and right. Below, inscription: "Smite him dead! The Day of Judgment will not ask your reasons". Signed, H.v.Kleist. Below, the flames of Hell.

Karl Goetz (1875-1950) was a well-known German medalist. In 40 years Goetz created over 600 medals. From 1913-1923 Goetz became widely known for his satirical metals which ranged from nationalistic to ridicule. He later conformed to the National Socialist standard and moved away from Expressionism doing medals of known figures in German history. Aside from a medal during the Weimar Republic in which he satirized Hitler in a negative way, he steered clear of contradicting the National Socialist party.

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GERMANY. Dresden.  
Silver medal of composer  
Carl Maria von Weber.

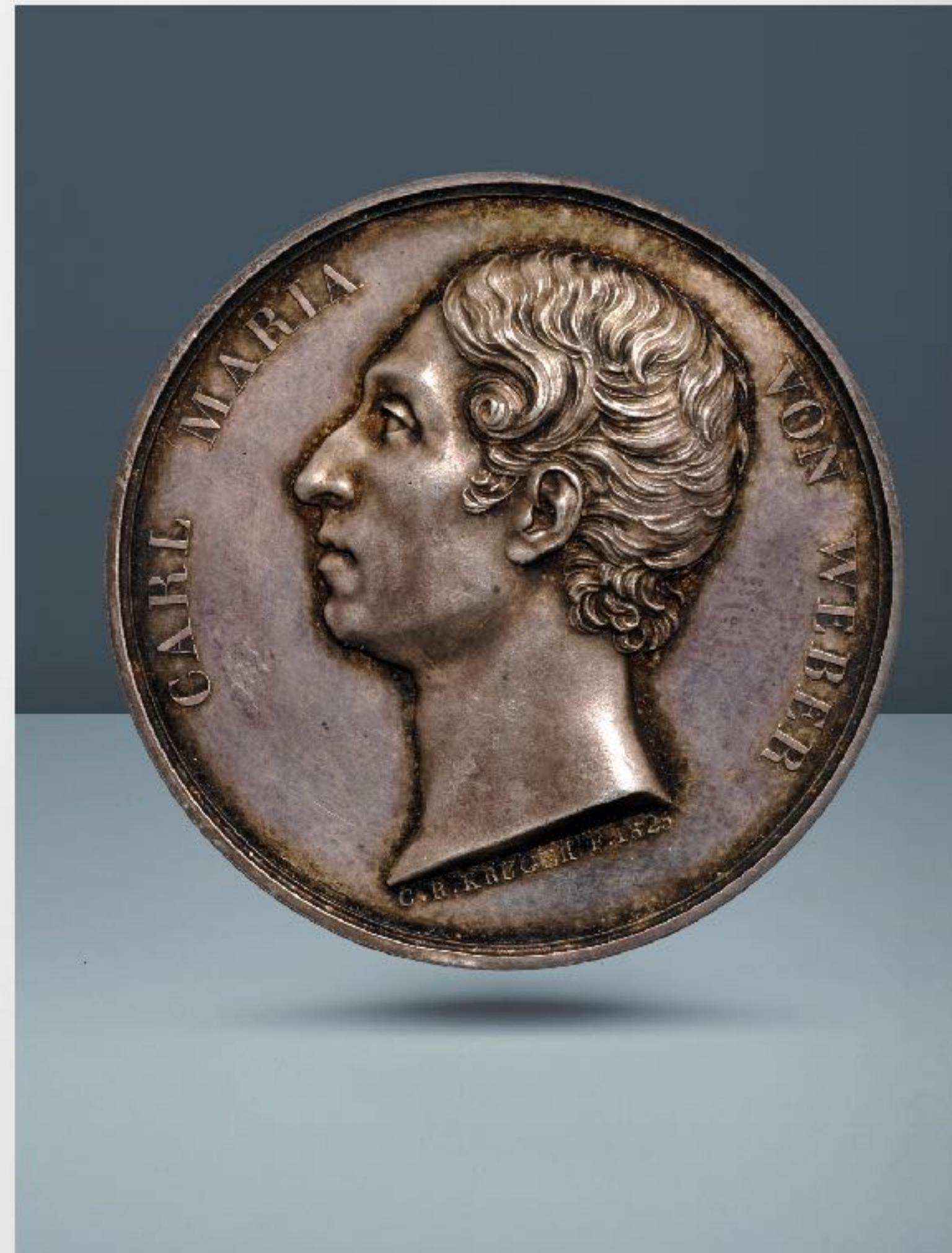
1825.

**AR Medal, 28.29g (39mm, 12h).** Profile head left.  
CARL MARIA VON WEBER / Orpheus on dolphin with  
lyre. Two horns and a lyre in the exergue.

**References:** Kress H 18a. Nigg 2294. Merseburger  
Collection 4579

**Grade:** Beautifully toned with iridescence. EF.  
(Wc1198)

\$ 2,250



This lovely metal is a dedication to Carl Maria von Weber, a composer who was prolific in many areas of music but excelled particularly in the area of opera. This metal was produced one year before his death in 1826 and in his hometown (at the time of his death) of Dresden. Carl Maria von Weber took a position at the illustrious Dresden Opera where he attempted to uplift the appeal of German opera which was a step-child to the ever popular Italian opera. Unfortunately the 39 year old composer was suffering from Tuberculosis and died while in London making performance rounds. It took 18 years to return his body to Dresden to be buried next to his 19 year old son Alexander who had tragically died seven weeks prior to his own death.

The reverse shows Orpheus, the Thracian bard and legendary musician, with his lyre atop of his totem, the dolphin. The reverse is reminiscent of the coinage of Calabria with Taras atop a dolphin.

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# Germany. Medal from Nürnberg.

*18th century.*

**AV Dukat, 3.48g (21mm).** Incense burner containing a flaming heart / Beehive on a table surrounded by a swarm of bees. "BETHE UND / ARBEITE GOTT WIRDS WOL MACHEN" Pray and / work God will make it right.

**References:** Erlanger Collection 2441. Goppel Collection 1168 (in silver).

**Grade:** Tiny trial mark at the edge and die break at 11h. EF. (Wc1199)

\$ 2,100



This fascinating medal from Nürnberg likely has a religious intent behind it. An incense burner with a flaming heart could signify Jesus Christ and his burning love for all people, including sinners. The reverse which shows a swarm of bees can suggest divinity, fertility and luck.

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Germany.  
Sigmaringen-Helfenstein,  
under Gottfried III.  
1247-1263

Struck c. 1250-1260

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**AR Bracteate, 0.42g (20mm).** Deer springing r. /  
incuse of obverse.

**Pedigree:** Ex Fritz Rudolf Künker 322, Osnabrück 2019,  
lot 136

**References:** Berger 2514. Klein/Ulmer (CC) 252.1

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**Grade:** Beautiful iridescent toning. Nice details and  
good metal with no cracks. Mint State (wc1202)

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**\$ 2,750**



Bracteates are interesting coins in that they are paper thin silver, hammered with crude imagery. They were also called "hollowed pennies" and used as a regional currency in German speaking areas. Bracteates were regularly called back (about once or twice a year) in order to renew the coins. This meant that a tax of sorts in the form of keeping one bracteate happened. If one brought back four bracteates then they would receive three new ones in return. This system helped to stimulate the economy but also caused a huge disruption to business dealings. The end result was the creation of an "eternal penny" in around 1413.

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